

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A blow-molded container comprising:
  - a cylindrical body;
  - a neck disposed in the upper portion of said body; and
  - a bottom disposed in the lower portion of said body, whereinsaid container is formed by a direct blow molding process using a split mold, which has a mold parting face perpendicular to the mold-clamping direction and splits into front and rear mold halves, and in which a blow ratio in the range of 1 to 3 is set in the direction of mold parting lines formed by said mold parting face in a plan view showing a body portion above said bottom, wherein
  - each of said front and rear mold halves include a semi-columnar bottom block, said semi-columnar bottom block being disposed inside each of said respective front and rear mold halves and having a top surface, said top surface forming said bottom, said bottom and said cylindrical body forming a semi-circular bottom edge line, wherein
  - a bottom parting line is formed on an underside surface of said bottom by a linear pinch-off line, which is formed by pinch-off blades disposed at pinch-off section of said split mold, a pair of said mold parting lines formed on the right and left sides of a peripheral zone, and a pair of connecting lines that connect the right and left ends of said pinch-off line to inner ends of said right and left mold parting lines, wherein
  - said connecting lines adjacent to said pinch-off line are formed by end parting faces located at right and left ends of the pinch-off section of said split mold so that a pair of substantially right-angled bent corners is formed by said connecting lines and said pinch-off

line and said pair of connecting lines formed along said semi-circular bottom edge line,

wherein

said split mold forms flash lines on the underside surface of said bottom that extend only from the center of the underside surface to said bent corners, wherein

the pinch-off line linearly extends ~~across the~~across a diameter and passes the center of the underside surface of the bottom, the pinch-off line being angularly offset by an angle  $\alpha$  from the direction of the mold parting lines, wherein

the connecting lines are formed by connecting substantially linearly the right and left ends of said pinch-off line with the inner ends of respective right and left mold parting lines, the connecting lines being substantially perpendicular to the mold parting lines, and wherein

the bottom parting line is formed substantially axisymmetrically around the center of said underside surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The blow-molded container of claim 1, wherein a blow ratio larger than 1.6 is set.

3. (Withdrawn) The blow-molded container of claim 1, wherein a blow ratio of 1.6 or less is set.

4. (Previously Presented) The blow-molded container of claim 1, wherein said bent corners have a step height or facial width at least nearly twice the wall thickness of a parison used for blow molding.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The blow-molded container of ~~claim 5~~claim 1, wherein said ~~central~~ angle,  $\alpha$ , is set at 45 degrees or less.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Withdrawn) The blow-molded container of claim 1, said container used as a primary molded product and molded into a biaxially drawn, blow-molded container.

9. (Withdrawn) The blow-molded container of claim 1, wherein the container wall has a laminated structure.

10. (Withdrawn) The blow-molded container of claim 9, wherein the laminated structure comprises at least an outer layer made of a synthetic resin and an inner layer made of another synthetic resin having low compatibility with the synthetic resin of which the outer layer is made.

11. (Currently Amended) A mold for blow molding a container including a cylindrical body, a neck disposed in an upper portion of the body, and a bottom disposed in a lower portion of the body, the mold comprising:

a split mold having a mold parting face perpendicular to the mold-clamping direction, said split mold split into front and rear mold halves; ~~and~~ wherein each of said front and rear mold halves include a semi-columnar bottom block, said semi-columnar bottom block being disposed inside each of said respective front and rear mold halves and having a top surface, said top surface forming said bottom disposed in said lower portion of said cylindrical body, said bottom and said cylindrical body forming a semi-circular bottom edge line; and

a mold pinch-off section to pinch off a parison and provided with pinch-off blades on a bottom surface of a bottom of a mold cavity, wherein

a bottom parting line is formed on the bottom surface; ~~in the cross-sectional plan view of said split mold in its closed state, by a linear pinch-off line formed on the bottom surface by the pinch-off blades, said pinch-off line including:~~

a pair of mold parting lines formed by said mold parting face on the right and left peripheries; ~~and, and~~

a pair of connecting lines that ~~connect the~~connect right and left ends of said pinch-off line to inner ends of said right and left mold parting lines, the pair of connecting lines formed along said semi-circular bottom edge line, wherein

said connecting lines adjacent to said pinch-off line are formed by end parting faces located at right and left ends of the pinch-off section of said split mold so that a pair of substantially right-angled bent corners is formed by said connecting lines and said pinch-off line, wherein

the pinch-off line linearly extends ~~across the~~across a diameter and passes the center of the bottom surface of the bottom of the mold cavity, the pinch-off line being angularly offset by an angle  $\alpha$  with the direction of the mold parting lines ~~in the cross-sectional plan view~~ of said split mold in its closed state, wherein

the connecting lines are formed by connecting substantially linearly the right and left ends of said pinch-off line with the inner ends of respective right and left mold parting lines, the connecting lines being substantially perpendicular to the mold parting lines, and wherein

the bottom parting line is formed substantially axisymmetrically around the center of said bottom surface.

12. (Previously Presented) The mold of claim 11, wherein said bent corners have a step height or facial width at least nearly twice the wall thickness of the parison used for blow molding.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The mold of ~~claim 13~~claim 11, wherein said ~~central~~ angle,  $\alpha$ , is set at 45 degrees or less.

15. (Canceled)